



File Code: 1300/7700

Date: SEP 02 2009

Mr. Lee Roy Brinegar
110 3rd Street
Rock Springs, WY 82901

Dear Mr. Brinegar:

This letter is in response to your data correction request dated June 15, 2009, received by our office June 29, 2009. You requested that we change incorrect information in the Motorized Travel Plan, Draft EIS:

“This request affects information disseminated to the public and local, state and federal agencies in reference to the Motorized Travel Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Ashley National Forest, Duchesne, Daggett, and Uintah Counties, Utah and Sweetwater County, Wyoming, 77ER63548-63554 NOL, 77ER63594 Correction, and 73FRI7859-17860, EPA Notice of Availability EIS No. 20090113, Draft EIS (ANF/FGNRA Travel Management Plan DEIS and comment extension to July 6, 2009) and any other such posting or material, past, present, or in the future, as pertain to the name, location and depiction on USFS travel or transportation maps of Holmes Crossing and/or Brinegar Ferry situated on the Green River within the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area lands and development within Sweetwater County, State of Wyoming, administered by the Forest Service.”

Specifically, you believe that the site referred to as Holmes Crossing on the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area is misnamed and request that all information referring to Holmes Crossing be corrected in the present planning process as well as in any Scenic Byway Site determinations, the Ashley National Forest's transportation atlas, any audio-visual presentations, and historical markers created by the Forest Service.

The site in question is a Forest Service improved recreation site about 5 acres in size. The original name was Squaw Hollow; the name was changed to Holmes Crossing after consultation with the Ute and Shoshoni Tribes. All maps and documents being used in the travel management planning process use the new name, Holmes Crossing, as approved by the Regional Forester on March 13, 2003. The substance of your letter and enclosures address the process and facts used to make the name change.

In addition, we believe the information is in compliance with the USDA requirements under the Data Quality Act, as follows:

1. **Utility and transparency:** You assert that insufficient research and public disclosure was conducted at the time of the name change. Records included in the data challenge, as well as the Forest Service correspondence files, indicate that the name change was made following procedures in Forest Service Manual (FSM) 1242. This is not an action that requires public comment under the National Environmental Policy Act. However, the District Ranger did inform the public of the proposed name change at several public meetings and made personal contacts with parties likely to be interested in the change, including you. The District Ranger also consulted with the Forest archaeologist to ensure that the new name was appropriate for the site. As a result, the name “Holmes Crossing” was approved and maps, documents, road signs and other materials must show this name in order to be accurate.



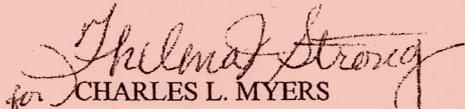
2. Objectivity and quality: You assert that the new name was selected based on insufficient or inaccurate historical information, and present maps and photos suggesting the ferry operated at this site was actually owned by your family. However, the substance of this challenge is whether or not documents prepared and disseminated as part of the travel management planning process (and any other Forest Service documents distributed to the public) are accurate. As shown in the response to #1, above, the name Holmes Crossing was assigned to the recreation site using proper procedure and by the proper authority. Therefore, the travel planning documents must show this name; any other name would be inaccurate at this point in time.

In conclusion, the name Holmes Crossing was assigned to the Forest Service recreation site in question following proper procedures and must be used on all maps and documents prepared by the Forest Service unless and until that name is formally changed. The documents being disseminated by the Forest Service as part of its travel management planning process are therefore accurate. The historical questions raised in your challenge are best addressed by working with your local Forest Service officials. Property records show a variety of landowners in the vicinity of the recreation site in the early 1900s, including your family, the Holmes family, and others.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may submit a Request for Reconsideration (RFR) within 45 days after the date of this letter transmitting our decision on your original request for correction. An RFR filed after the 45-day deadline may be treated as untimely. The RFR should reference this letter and its enclosure. Additional requirements and information for an RFR are located at this link: http://www.ocio.usda.gov/qi_guide/corrections.html. An RFR may be submitted to the following street address, facsimile, or email address:

USDA Forest Service
Attn: George Vargas/Information Quality Officer
Mail Stop 1113, 1 SW Yates Building
1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250
Fax: 202-260-3245
gvargas@fs.fed.us

Sincerely,


for CHARLES L. MYERS
Deputy Chief for Business Operations

cc: Kathy Paulin, Deidre S StLouis